

Message Text

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51

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 PC-01 /061 W
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P 291720Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3553

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 1916

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, DR

SUBJ: PEACEFUL PASSAGE OF 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF US INTERVENTIONS

1. DESPITE REPORTS RECEIVED BY EMBASSY THAT EXTREMISTS MIGHT TRY TO DRAMATIZE THE OCCASION, APRIL 28, 1975, 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF LANDING OF AMERICAN MARINES IN SANTO DOMINGO, PASSED WITHOUT INCIDENT. THERE WAS COMPLETE ABSENCE ROCK THROWING, STREET DEMONSTRATIONS OR UNUSUALLY CRITICAL EDITORIAL COMMENTS REFERRING TO US INTERVENTION. PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS HAD BEEN CLOSED DURING THIS PERIOD AS A PREVENTIVE MEASURE.

2. ONLY UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE SANTO DOMINGO (UASD) HAD PUBLIC CEREMONY. IN LOWERING DOMINICAN FLAG TO HALF MAST IN REMEMBRANCE OF US "INVASION," RECTOR MADE A SHORT SPEECH DEPLORING THE INTERVENTION. LOCAL PRESS ALSO REPORTED A DEMONSTRATION IN NEW YORK CITY BY DOMINICANS CRITICAL OF THE US ACTION.

3. COMMENT: PEACEFUL, ALMOST TOTALLY UNEVENTFUL PASSAGE OF 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF US INTERVENTION IS NOTEWORTHY IN THAT DOMINICANS SEEM TO BE RECONCILING THEMSELVES TO THEIR HISTORY. MANY REMAIN CRITICAL OF THE US INTERVENTION, BUT IN GENERAL THE INTENSITY OF THEIR FEELINGS HAS BEEN MODERATED BY TIME, BY ECONOMIC PROSPERITY AND BY THE RELATIVE POLITICAL
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STABILITY WHICH HAS BEEN THE SEQUEL TO THE INTERVENTION.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: IN VIEW OF SOMEWHAT DISTORTED
REPORTING IN US MEDIA IN DAYS PRECEDING 10TH ANNIVERSARY
OF LANDINGS IN DR, DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO CALL PEACEFUL
PASSING OF THE ANNIVERSARY TO ATTENTION OF NEWSMEN WHO ARE
INTERESTED IN PRESENTING MORE BALANCED AND OBJECTIVE
ACCOUNTS. IN VIEW OF ALMOST DAILY REPORTING IN THE US PRESS OF
VIOLENT INCIDENTS IN ONE PART OF THE WORLD OR ANOTHER, THE FACT
OF AN UNEVENTFUL TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF AN IMPORTANT AND
CONTROVERSIAL POLITICAL EVENT MAY BE NEWSWORTHY IN AND OF ITSELF.
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Message Attributes

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